

Appendix D

Example Platoon Operations Center Configuration

INTRODUCTION

D-1. The POC of the Paladin platoon is in an M577/M1068 command post carrier. The additional equipment associated with the Paladin system requires revision of the POC layout outlined in FM 6-40 for M109A5 units. Figure D-1 shows a top view of the inside of the M577/M1068 while Figure D-2, shows a top view from the outside.

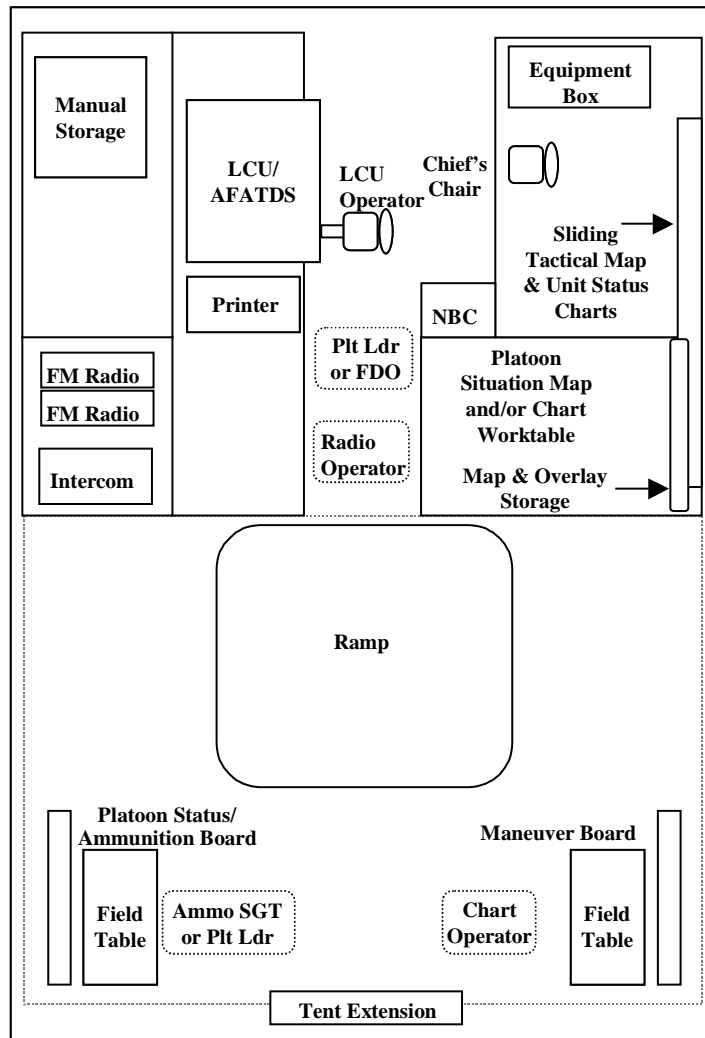


Figure D-1. Top View, Inside M577/M1068 Example

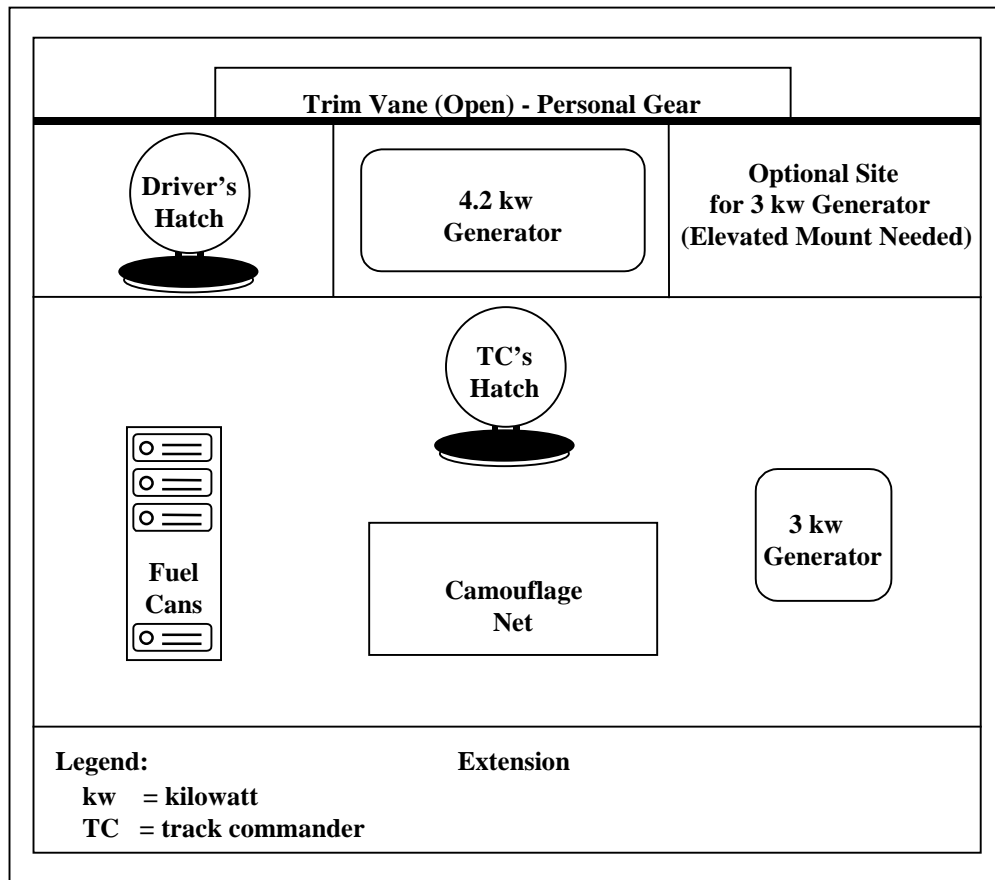


Figure D-2. Top View, Outside M577/M1068 Example

D-2. An additional way to configure the inside of the M577/M1068 is illustrated in Figure D-3.

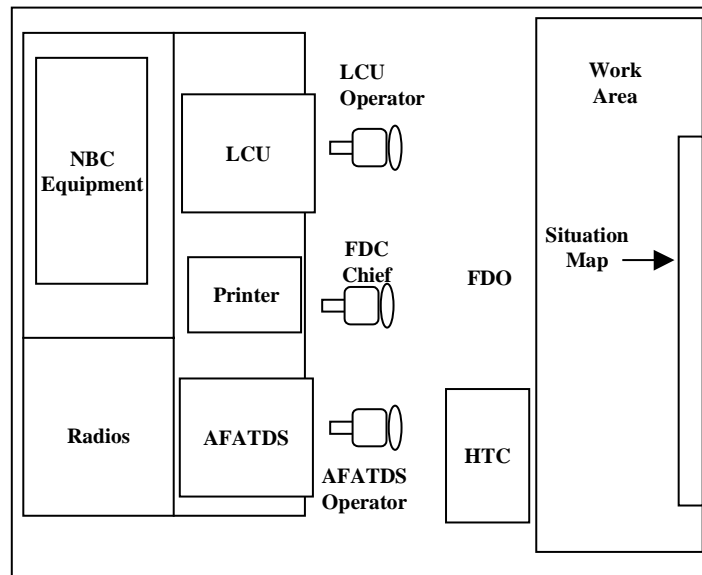


Figure D-3. Top View, Inside M577/M1068 Example

INSIDE VIEW, M577/M1068

INTERNAL RIGHT SIDE CONFIGURATION

D-3. The internal right side configuration may include the modifications discussed below.

CVC Helmet Hanger

D-4. A storage cabinet with CVC helmet hanger may be fabricated from sheet metal or wood. The recommended dimensions are 19 1/2 inches high x 17 1/2 inches wide x 21 3/4 inches deep.

Map/Overlay Storage

D-5. A map and overlay storage container may be made with 3-inch plastic pipe and joining collars.

Map Boards

D-6. By securing a track along the top right side, a unit may secure sliding Plexiglas map boards for easy use by the crew. After mounting the maps, the crew may transfer tactical overlays to the Plexiglas. The crew may then attach the unit status boards to the side of the M577.

Fire Direction Chief's Chair

D-7. For the fire direction chief's chair, the unit can secure a swivel chair, minus legs, to the shelf. To maintain access to the battery compartment, an easy or quick disconnect is required.

INTERNAL LEFT SIDE CONFIGURATION

D-8. The internal left side configuration may include the modifications discussed below.

Intercom Box Mounts

D-9. Intercom boxes are mounted on a mounting plate that may be fabricated by the unit. Thus, the intercom boxes can be moved out of the way to the top shelf with the radios.

Radio Mounts

D-10. The SINCGARS are mounted in "doghouses". Mounting the radios in the protective housing lets the crew stack the radios effectively.

Storage Shelf Height

D-11. The shelf above the LCU is raised 3.5 inches. Fabricate metal mounting straps to raise the shelf above the LCU. This eliminates the need to cut the shelf.

Manual Storage Cabinet

D-12. A manual storage cabinet can be made from metal or wood and used to store reference manuals and other required papers. The recommended dimensions are 11 inches high x 32 inches wide x 12 inches deep.

Swivel Stool

D-13. The unit could use a swivel stool with back or order the swivel seat from the variable format message entry device installation kit for the M577.

OTHER IMPROVEMENTS, M577/M1068

D-14. Other considerations for overall improvement of the POC include the following:

- Install 24-volt fans along the ceiling by the work stations to aid in cooling and ventilation.
- Install encased fluorescent light fixtures to increase lighting and decrease heat generated by incandescent lighting.
- Install heavy-duty rubber floor matting.
- Remove table or work extensions except at the situation map center.
- Attach corkboard to the wall of the M577/M1068 at the radio operator's station for charts, notes, and a call-sign board.
- Consider using Velcro strips or Velcro-backed boards for quick removal and updating. This is especially useful if multiple boards are maintained and various setups can be used (e.g., tent extension or a modified trailer).
- Consider installing a map display with the materials listed in Figure D-4. (Reference: FM 1-111, *Aviation Brigades*, Chapter 2).

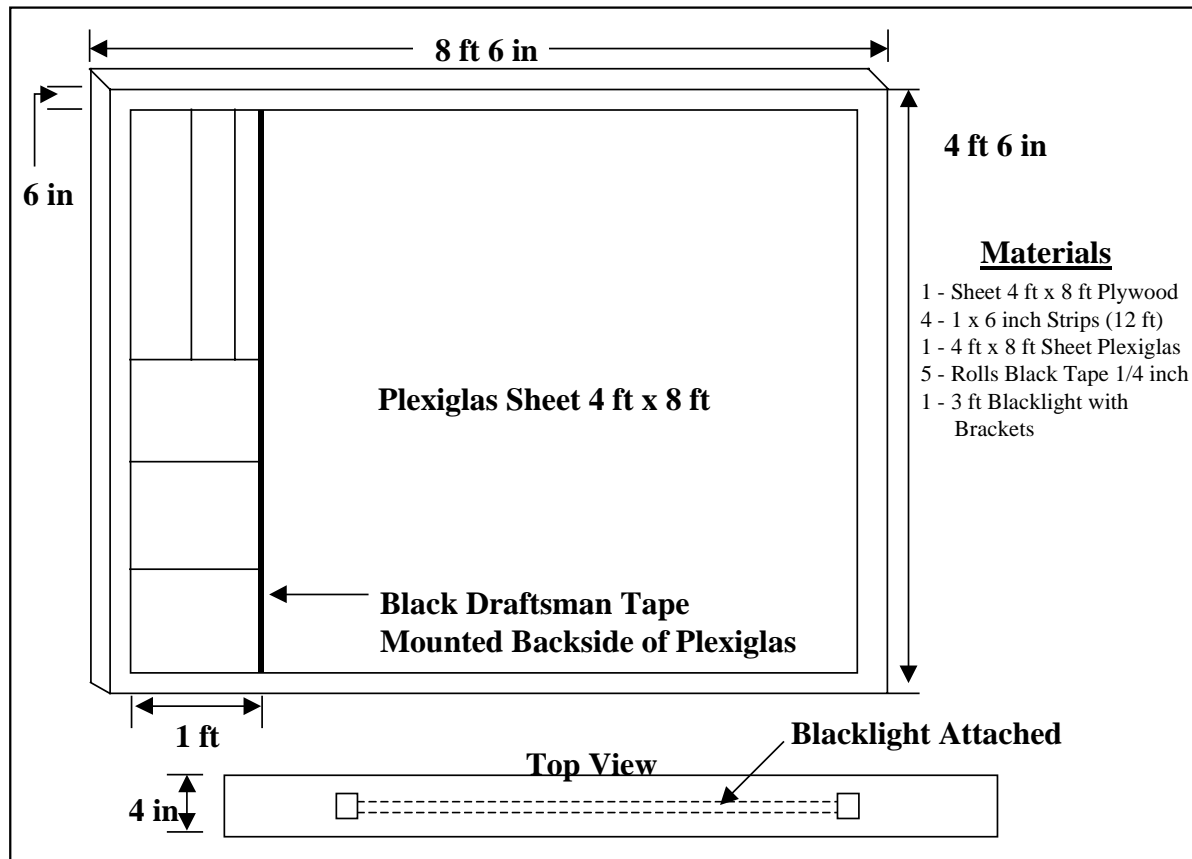


Figure D-4. Example Map Display

INSIDE VIEW, TENT EXTENSION

INTERNAL RIGHT SIDE CONFIGURATION

D-15. The internal right side configuration (Figure D-5) may include the modifications discussed below.

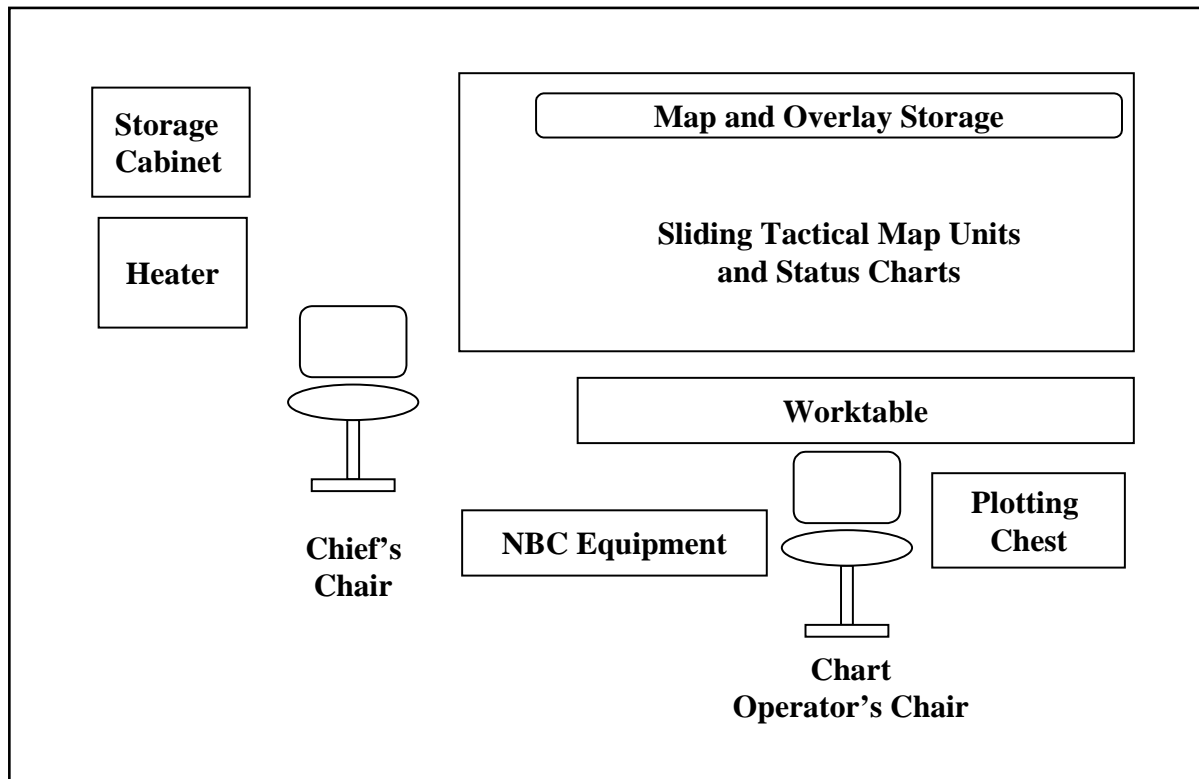


Figure D-5. Tent Extension Inside View, Right Side Example

Tactical Map

D-16. The platoon leader uses the tactical map to track the maneuver situation and plan tactical moves.

Worktable

D-17. The worktable is used to develop movement instructions or the chart operator can work here instead of inside the M577/M1068.

Status/Ammunition Board

D-18. The platoon leader monitors the status/ammunition board to track Class III, Class V, Class IX, and howitzer status. This takes the administrative/logistics activities out of the M577/M1068 and allows the crew to concentrate on tactical fire direction.

Platoon Leader's Battlebook

D-19. This book is an easily transportable binder used by the platoon leader when he is away from the POC. The book should contain all the information maintained on the POC's status charts and all reports. It is maintained by the platoon leader and provides a redundant record of important data regarding platoon operations.